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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. A new plant of the United Factories for Industrial Porcelain which produces porcelain used in electrotechnical works and atomic plants is being built at Louny (Laun - N51/F 21). This will be the largest plant of its kind in Europe. In the meantime the rest of this nationalized trust has undergone a reorganization to speed production.
2. Under the reorganization the 14 component plants of the corporation are divided into three groups with headquarters at Stare Role (Alt Rohlau - N51/P 69), Praha (051/L 78), and Potočna n. Desnou (Tiefenbach - 051/G 36). A total of 3,000 men are employed by the company.
3. The first group at Stare Role is managed by Herman, a Communist, and consists of the following plants:
 - a. Plant No. 1 at Merklin (Merkelsgrün - N51/K 60) produces industrial porcelain for low and high tension electric lines. A new center for research on insulating porcelain has recently been built here. It tests insulators up to 500,000 volts. A new testing plant which will test insulators up to a million volts is soon to be put into operation. This plant will contain the most important electrification equipment in all of Czechoslovakia because it can be used to test special radar parts and insulators used in atomic plants. The plant was to have been set in operation after it received special condenser paper from Sweden in January 1950.
 - b. Plant No. 6 at As (N51/P 18) produces pyrostat and pressed industrial porcelain.
 - c. Plant No. 7 at Klenci (N50/P 60) formerly a Rosenthal factory, makes special materials for radio and radar manufacture.
 - d. Plant No. 12 at Stare Role produces porcelain for high tension insulators and is the site of the Joint Ceramic Research Institute.

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4. The second group at Praha is managed by Strasnov, a Communist, and consists of the following plants:
 - a. Plant No. 2 at Ledvice (Ladowitz - N51/F 23) manufactures industrial porcelain for low and high tension electric lines.
 - b. Plant No. 4 at Bohosudov (Mariaschein - N51/F 34) makes pressed industrial porcelain and porcelain for low tension electric lines.
 - c. Plant No. 5 at Praha-Liben (O51/L 76) produces pyrostat, steatite (an insulating material used in the manufacture of electric cookers and other heating devices), and special materials used in manufacturing radio and radar parts.
 - d. Plant No. 11 at Louny makes turned porcelain and porcelain insulators for low and high tension electric lines. When completed, the new Louny plant is to be known as Plant No. 14 and will be in the second group. There will be 2,500 men employed in the plant, thus doubling the number of workers in the corporation. Twelve special tunnel furnaces are to be installed and pressed and thrown porcelain is to be produced here.
5. The third group, headed by the Pojizerske Porcelain Works at Potočna n. Desnou, is managed by Ing. Havlik, and consists of the following plants:
 - a. Plant No. 3 at Zacler (Schatzlar - O51/G 75) has been making porcelain for low and high tension electric lines, but the high tension phase is being liquidated, and the entire plant will be closed down when the new factory at Louny is completed in 1952.
 - b. Plant No. 8 at Potočna n. Desnou produces industrial porcelain for the textile industry, much of which is exported to England, Australia, and the USA.
 - c. Plant No. 9 at Kysibl (N51/P 78) makes porcelain insulators for high and low tension electric lines, and turned porcelain.
 - d. Plant No. 10 at Desna (O51/G36) makes special laboratory porcelain.
 - e. Plant No. 13 at Hroznatin (O50/H 90) makes tools for all the plants.
6. The bulk of the corporation's production is consumed domestically by the Skoda Works, which in turn makes large electric transformer installations for export. Other customers are concerns of the power industry, Elektropraga, and Tesla. In 1948 and 1949 most of the production was scheduled to be exported because the government needed hard currency, but contracts were cancelled by Switzerland, the Netherlands, and the Union of South Africa in the spring of 1949 because delivery dates were never met. Export of porcelain is handled by Ceskoslovenska Keramika in Prague.
7. Raw materials necessary for the production of porcelain are imported from the following places:
 - a. Feldspar of the highest quality is imported from Sweden. Swedish feldspar, is absolutely essential for the production of first rate laboratory porcelain, but recently some feldspar was obtained from the Stroebe firm in the East Zone of Germany. All porcelain production in Czechoslovakia would be stopped if the supply of feldspar were cut off.
 - b. Flint is imported from Denmark and Belgium although there are some minor flint beds in Slovakia. The Central Pebble Mills for flint and feldspar, which are to work on special furnace lining for porcelain baking, are being constructed at Horni Briza (Ober Bris - N50/L 05). The linings are made from refuse carborundum and last four times as long as fire clay linings.
 - c. Plaster comes from the Harz mountain region, Switzerland, and Poland.
 - d. By order of the USSR, uranic oxide, a special coloring substance for insulators, is no longer being imported.
8. Imports for the porcelain industry are now considered more important than those for the machinery industry because the power industry and the machinery producers are dependent upon the delivery of industrial porcelain.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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9. The Ceramic Research Institute at Hradec Kralove (Königgratz - 051/G 71) has recently been put under the jurisdiction of the Electrotechnical Research Institute (EVA, Elektrotechnische Versuchsanstalt) and has been equipped with modern machinery. Research has been conducted on high frequency materials, and on methods of drying porcelain with infra-red rays. All research is under strict military control. Three important persons in the Ceramic Research Institute are:
 - a. Ing. Kucera, Chief of the Institute, who still maintains his job with the Skoda works. He is 44 years old and a Communist.
 - b. Ing. Reinert, a German, 40 years old, and an expert on ceramics.
 - c. Dr. Bergstein, a chemical engineer employed by the VTU, who controls research on ceramics at EVA. Bergstein travels frequently to England where he tries to purchase ceramic materials from the US Titanium Alloy Corporation, represented in England by the Union Oxide Corporation.
10. The Klenci Plant No. 7 employs about 200, mostly women, and is managed by Karel Mayer, a Czech, and a Communist since February 1948. He is about 35 years old, is 175 cm. tall, weighs 70 kgs., is blond with blue eyes and wears glasses. There is a factory militia of 20 known members armed with rifles with 20 rounds of ammunition. Members of the militia include:
 - a. Josef Maroz, a Czech and a fanatical Communist. He is 40 years old, is 165 cm. tall, weighs 65 kgs., is blond with green eyes, and wears glasses. He is married.
 - b. Ondrej Bauer, a Czech and a dangerous Communist, is 30 years old, is 165 cm. tall, weighs 65 kgs., of medium build, with dark hair. Bauer was apprenticed as a barber, has been married and is now divorced.
 - c. Josef Tajbl, a Czech, 35 years old.
 - d. Martin Benes, a Czech, 50 years old, formerly a school janitor.
 - e. Jan Hamerle, a Czech, 50 years old, formerly a tailor.The factory is guarded by two civilian guards by day, and by two factory militia and two SWB members at night. A barbed wire fence 2 1/2 meters high surrounds the factory. The militia also patrols the woods around the factory.
11. Equipment in the factory includes three coal ovens which burn five or six carloads of coal per week and five electric furnaces. Production includes industrial porcelain for use as insulators, parts of resistors, switches, and parts of radio receivers, transmitters and radar. Two or three carloads of porcelain articles are shipped from the factory every week.

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